

Questions **A**nswers **I**nterpretations **T**ips **R**eviews

The present invention relates to a witness system that takes advantage of EDI (electronic data exchange) to perform efficient distribution and account settlement (accounting) processes between selling and buying companies. The present invention also provides a system ensuring information safety and offers account settlement (accounting) processes utilizing said witness system. A buying company's computer makes documents according, illustratively, to delivery vouchers or order vouchers, and sends said documents to a selling company's computer via a notarization authority. The selling company compares authentication documents so transmitted with, illustratively, delivery vouchers or order vouchers that the selling company itself has issued, and, after checking for substantive errors and determining that the contents of said documents are correct, executes a confirmation response with respect to the notarization authority. The notarization authority registers said documents in the witness server's receipts detail table and notifies buying company and selling company that the notarization authority has authenticated (said documents). This structure

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- 5 makes possible the making of accurate detailed payment statements when, for example, a detailed payment statement is made or a funds transfer is executed based on confirmed data. Furthermore, the checking of said detailed payment statement by a buying company and a selling company is made simpler through reference to the above-described witness system server 8.

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